WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Unused Runways at Airports

3176. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of runways at different airports in the country are not in use;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any action is being taken to make them usable;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Details are as under:

Aizwal in Mizoram, Akola, Hadapsar and Sholapur in Maharashtra, Asansol, Bellurghat, Behala, Cooch Behar and Malda in West Bengal, Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh, Chakulia in Jharkhand, Donakonda, Cudappah and Warrangal in Andhra Pradesh, Dessa in Gujarat, Hassan and Mysore in Karnataka, Jhansi and Lalitpur in.Uttar Pradesh, Jharsuguda in Orissa, Jogbani, Muzzafarpur and Raxual in Bihar, Kailashar, Kamalpur and Khowai in Tripura, Khandwa, Panna and Satna in Madhya Pradesh, Passighat in Arunachal Pradesh, Rupsi and Sheila in Assam and Vellore in Tamil Nadu.

Because of some demand from Airline Operators, the airstrips at Mysore, Cooch Behar and Akola are being improved for operation of 50 seater ATR 72 type of aircraft. Operationalisation of other unused airports depends upon receipt of demand from airline operators to start their operations.

(e) Does not arise.